



VFA-125 FRS PRODUCTION

F/A-18 HORNET

- LTCOL GREGG “BOY” GEORGE
XO, VFA-125



VFA-125 FRS PRODUCTION

- **How are we tracking: CAT I**
 - Class 01-6: CQ in February, dual sited for FCLPs (IFLOLS), slightly behind but will be ready for boat (6USN/ 3USMC)
 - Class 01-7: Completed Fighter det in New Orleans, CQ in March, ahead of schedule (5USN/ 2USMC)
 - Class 01-8: Currently in Strike Phase, No Det required, tracking (3USN/ 3USMC)
 - Class 02-1: Currently in SRA/BFM Stage, slightly behind Fighter Det in March (6USN/ 1USMC)
 - Class 02-2: Currently in FAM/FRM/AWI stage, tracking for April Fighter Det in Fallon (5USN/ 1USMC)
 - Class 02-3: Currently Ground School/SERE



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- **CAT Others**

- **CAT IV/V:**

- 3 in Feb boat
 - 3 in March boat

- **CAT III:**

- 4 Onboard, various stages, flow to finish as quickly as possible

- **CAT II:**

- 1 Tracking with Class 01-8
 - 2 Tracking with Class 02-2
 - 1 Tracking with Class 02-3



VFA-125 FRS PRODUCTION

- Issues Affecting Production
 - Weather: El Centro WX Det required in January due to Lemoore Fog Season (3 wks vice 5 wks this year)
 - Range Space: Issues with priority in Fallon, more dets in Key West, El Centro, Coso Range Helps
 - Bogey Support: Same as above
 - Dual/Tri Siting the norm in order to get things done
 - Instructor Manning: Slightly below entitlement, however, RFT ACFT still limiting factor
 - RFT ACFT: On increase, est. 17 for month of Jan (entitled 18)
 - Fleet Needs: Move afoot to take FRS C models in exchange for A models



FA-125 FRS PRODUCTION



	FY02 FR	FY02 IPP	IPP to date	FY02 Outs	Remarks
VFA-125	50	49	14	10	3 RP's rolled to FEB CQ / 1 RP Med Down

- **BARRIERS**
 - **4 MONTH RFT AVERAGE 15(18 ENTITLED)-INCREASING TREND**
 - **PRELOAD TOO SHORT(RP'S ARRIVING WITHOUT SERE SCHOOL)**
- **RESOURCES**
 - **RANGES / ADVERSARY SUPPORT**
 - **O LEVEL MANPOWER:**
 - **CRITICAL CPO MANNING SHORTAGE**
 - **LACK OF TMS EXPERIENCE AT E5/E6 LEVEL**
 - **OVER 70% OF DESIGNATED E-4 AND BELOW REPORTING W/OUT REQUIRED ENROUTE TRAINING**



Training Barrier

USMC MANNING

- TO to COB shortages in critical MOS's
 - COB includes LIMDU

	<u>TO</u>	<u>COB</u>	<u>% of TO</u>
6337	electric	11	8
72%			
6257	Airframes	11	9
6287	Sfty Eqpt	3	2
6317	Com/Nav	5	4
6046	Admin	2	1
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6531	Ordnance	9	5
Total	41	29	70%



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- Conclusions
 - RFT A/C situation is improving
 - 1st “in house” Strike Det in recent memory
However;
 - Too many short/no notice CAT IV/V
 - Not enough CPOs, F/A-18 experienced E5/E6
Overall manning shortage approx. 100
 - Spare part shortages
 - Forced to waive syllabus sorties